John David Dingell, Sr.

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
MICHIGAN

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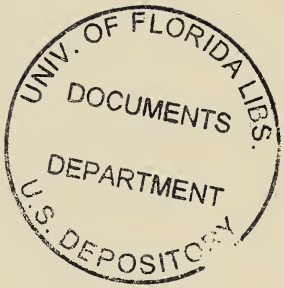

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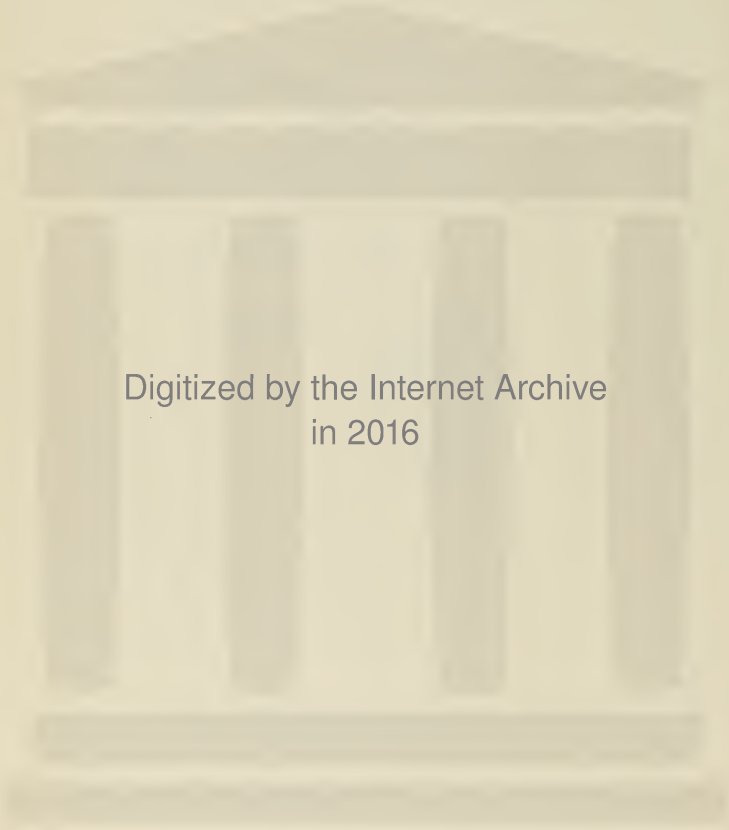
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER
WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

John David Dingell, Sr.

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
MICHIGAN

Eighty-fourth Congress
Second Session

UNITED STATES
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Biography

JOHN DAVID DINGELL, SR., a Representative from Michigan; born in Detroit, Mich., February 2, 1894; newsboy, printer, and newspaperman; engaged in natural-gas pipeline construction; wholesale dealer in beef and pork products; organizer and trustee of Colorado Springs Labor College; elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-third and to the eleven succeeding Congresses and served from March 3, 1933, until his death at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C., September 19, 1955; interment in Holy Sepulchre Mausoleum, Detroit, Mich.

Memorial Services
for
John David Dingell, Sr.

Eighty-fourth Congress
Second Session

Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *January 3, 1956.*

The Chaplain, Rev. Bernard Braskamp, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, in Thy loving care and wise control are the coming in and the going out of all our days and years.

May we now enter upon this 2d session of the 84th Congress with renewed faith and fortitude, ever mindful of Thy gracious providence and assured of Thy divine sovereignty.

We are not afraid of tomorrow for we have seen yesterday and we love today.

Thou are always regarding with favor those who come unto Thee with a humble spirit and a contrite heart.

We beseech Thee to bless with Thy grace and solicitude our President, our Speaker, our chosen Representatives, and all Government employees.

Grant unto them the guidance of Thy holy spirit and a deep and abiding sense of Thy presence as they seek to discharge faithfully their many arduous tasks and responsibilities.

May the anxious and troubled soul of our beloved country and all humanity be filled with the joy of the Prince of Peace in whose name we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, today our thoughts turn to a beloved colleague who is not with us. JOHN DAVID DINGELL was a close friend of mine who will be sorely missed in this most crucial year in a troubled world.

JOHN was a frail man in physique, but he was a fighter at heart. Never have I known him to hesitate to stand up for what he knew to be right. Never have I known him to compromise with conscience in the interests of expediency. As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, he was a champion of the little people and strove always to see that the low-income families were properly represented on the committee. As a member of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, JOHN DINGELL gave valuable assistance to the Government through his vast knowledge of the Federal tax structure.

JOHN'S passing is a loss to his district, his State, and the Nation, and I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Grace, and his three children, John, Jr., James, and Julé.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I could not fail to embrace this opportunity to raise my voice in brief but very sincere tribute to the life, character, and public service of my warm friend and distinguished colleague, the late Honorable JOHN D. DINGELL, of Michigan. It was my privilege to work very closely with him throughout his period of service here. We worked shoulder to shoulder throughout the years as members of the Committee on Ways and Means. When I had the honor of becoming chairman of that great committee at the beginning of this Congress he ranked next to me. Our associations were very close; always very cordial. We cherished a warm friendship that existed throughout our years of service here together. He was a man who possessed the highest attributes of Christian character and all of the sterling qualities of manhood; a man of great ability and outstanding

courage, and a demonstrated devotion to public service. His heart beat in tune with the interest and the welfare of the masses of our people, and he was always zealous in the discharge of his duties as a member of our committee and as a Member of this House. It was my privilege and honor to be appointed a member of the funeral committee that attended his funeral in Detroit and there to see the vast host of warm friends whom he had served so faithfully throughout his period of service here. I join with my colleagues in extending my deepest sympathy to his bereaved widow and other members of the family. He was, indeed, a truly great American and great patriot.

Mr. RABAUT. I yield to our distinguished majority leader.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, Representative JOHN D. DINGELL, of Michigan, died last September but even now—months after—it is difficult for us to reconcile ourselves to the fact he is not with us. We are not unfamiliar here in the House of Representatives with the sudden onslaught of a bereavement it is difficult for us to face. But for me in the case of JOHN DINGELL, the pain is the deeper because we two enjoyed a kind of partnership of the spirit. This is true not only because we were veterans together in the Halls of Congress. It is true also because there was an understanding between us, in many ways an unspoken understanding, instinctive and genuine, that may have had its roots in our respective backgrounds and that flowered for him as well as for myself in the consummation of great events in which we both played some part. These events had their impact on history.

JOHN represented the 15th Congressional District in Detroit from 1932—through 12 continuous terms in Congress—until his passing Monday night, September 19th; a tribute surely to the esteem in which he was held by his constituents. It was an esteem which many of us shared with the people

who elected and reelected him. But on the stage of dedication to the people of America, on the stage of mighty government reform in the public interest, I like to aggrandize to myself the belief that perhaps I knew him most intimately of all.

There were two major motivations in the life of JOHN D. DINGELL, of Detroit—this son of Polish immigrants emerging out of the teeming populations of a great industrial city to a position of leadership and responsibility under our system of government. What were these two driving forces in his life? One was his religious faith—in his case Catholicism—that lived in him and with him every moment of his life. It guided him, it propelled him, it edified him, and he lived by its truths and principles deep in his soul, as good citizens live by the laws and ordinances of their community. This I—his fellow Catholic—was well and proudly conscious of. I derived a sort of strength in my own beliefs from contact with him. I noted how it elevated his perspective and gave him that unique strength that in the long run gives such force and such influence to the unselfish and the sincere servants of the common weal.

The other motivating force in his life was his deliberate, his devoted, his unceasing identification of himself and all his activities with the people whom he served, the public interest generally and the American ideal. Being religious he lacked fear, fear of pioneering, fear of untrod paths in legislation, in Government reform. He lacked fear of entrenched power and entrenched privilege. And he lacked fear of change and fear of dumping into the past and the limbo of the forgotten the deadweight of archaic but long-established forms and usages that straitjacketed progress and cried out for improvement. A divine providence seems to have created men like JOHN DINGELL—precisely like DINGELL—to meet the challenge of a changing era and master it. Because change, as even the most backward alarmists of the twenties and the thirties now agree, had to come. It had to come. But what men

with JOHN DINGELL'S patriotism, his religious depth, and his fierce dedication to the American tradition made possible, was change without doing violence to our free-enterprise system, and without impairing the constitutional structure of our Government. For above his crusading dynamism for moving us out of the mire of the great depression, and above his passion for curing the ills of our time and raising the living standards of the common man, was his orthodox faith in the principles of the Founding Fathers. He was undeviating in his loyalty to the Constitution of the United States and the body of law that grew out of it. JOHN DINGELL would have fought with all his zeal and every ounce of his strength against any radicalism that attacked by so much as one jot or tittle the basic principles of our Government.

With that conservatism and that persistent forward march to improvement there worked in JOHN DINGELL'S soul the free man's loathing for absolutism, dictatorship, communism or fascism, the monolithic state and all the trappings of the Caesars on the left and the Caesars on the right. For this deep and clear eyed thinking man from Detroit where all races were gathered together, the fantastic and fuzzy race theories of the dictators were but the application of sick ideas to serve the ends of personal power. And these ends were in themselves so sick and so askew and so unscientific and so ill-advised that they perished in wars that are now recogized as the greatest tragedy of history. Bigotry and dictatorship, going together, hand in hand, had to be swept off the world stage by men of religion and men of faith, by freemen.

Among their leaders was JOHN D. DINGELL.

These were the ideas that mattered in the life of the man I eulogize. They expressed themselves on the practical level, and they materialized into legislation no responsible and knowledgeable citizen would today dream of removing from the Nation's statute books, no matter how stubbornly they fought against men like DINGELL when this legislation was in process of enactment.

Just as JOHN DINGELL was not a half-way patriot so he was not a half-way legislator. He stood steadfast with the New Deal. Nor did his enthusiasm diminish when those of little faith saw some advantage later in the opposite trend. Rather JOHN DINGELL became as much a devotee of the Fair Deal as he had been a leader in the dynamic days of the New Deal.

He believed and his faith was vindicated.

For 12 years he fought for a national health-insurance plan. He was as unrelenting in this fight as he had formerly been in his advocacy of the securities and exchange reforms, the reciprocal-trade agreements, the National Labor Relations Act, and the social-security program. His horizons encompassed and went beyond this type of legislation. He was always looking years ahead, and a leader in charting the course for a better life for his fellow men.

If the question were asked what were the greatest rewards that came to JOHN DINGELL in his lifetime, I can guess, I think, quite accurately, what his answer might have been. First, I think he would have said, it came to him in the knowledge that he had fought the good fight and never surrendered. He would have said he found his reward in the respect and the affection he read in the eyes of his constituents who again and again elected him to office. I think he would have said, in an extremely moving way, that his reward was especially immense in the esteem in which he was held by Members of this House, in their affection, in their high regard for his character as a gentleman and a colleague. And ever so poignantly and gratefully he would have said that his reward came from the country he loved so devotedly. It was here that he struggled all his life, and almost always on a rising plane of success. He came out of a parochial school where his grounding in basic education had been solid. He informed himself by reading courses in political science and economics. He had worked on a Detroit newspaper and in other fields. And his career found its fullest assertion in politics where he became our associate and our friend. Al-

ways the light that marked his path was his religion and the public interest.

They say there is no indispensable man.

Maybe not. But I dread to think what our world and what our country would be like if Almighty God did not out of His eternal regard for the least of us provide the generations with men of the faith and the stature of JOHN D. DINGELL.

To Mrs. Dingell, and her loved ones, Mrs. McCormack and I extend our profound sympathy in their bereavement.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. Sieminski].

Mr. SIEMINSKI. DEAR JOHN: I missed you today as the second session of the 84th Congress convened. It seemed only yesterday that your letter welcomed me to the Congress in January 1951. You and Congressman Ed Hart and Congressman Aime Forand did so much in those opening days to steer me toward my Committee on Appropriations. You said I would be happy on it. So right you were.

Ofttimes we talked on the House floor. As I recall it, your view was that as we, in legislation, served the best interest of man, we strengthened the Nation and thus the world. Could anything seem simpler?

Your son sits to the right of John McCormack, that battler, as John does you homage. Your boy looks to the right and then to the left in quiet appreciation at those whose kind words are added to those of John McCormack. Your boy looks fit. He has taken your baton, dear friend. He will run the good race you have started bringing added luster to the 48 stars on that field of blue you loved and honored and cherished so much.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Jenkins].

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I am glad this fine eulogy has just been delivered by our good and able colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. McCormack], because he has gone thoroughly and completely into the life of a very deserving individual.

JOHN DINGELL came from the ranks of what we call the common people. He knew the problems of the common people and was one of their stanch defenders. He knew what it meant to work and it was his industry and his sympathy with men who work that advanced him in his public career. He was a man with great natural ability. He could discuss intricate public problems with clarity and with conviction.

Unfortunately, ill health overtook him a number of years ago. Really, it was pitiful to see the gallant fight he put up against illness.

As a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, I had a chance to know of his efforts. I have this to say for him. We always knew where he stood and what he was seeking to do. He was thoroughly dependable, a fine American citizen. His distinguished son who is following him as a Member of this Congress has every reason to be proud of his father's work in this distinguished body.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Machrowicz.]

Mr. MACHROWICZ. Mr. Speaker, the passing of our beloved friend and distinguished colleague, JOHN D. DINGELL, has brought much sorrow to all who knew him and to the millions who benefited from the many years of his fruitful and unselfish public service. If there was any characteristic which particularly stood out to mark JOHN DINGELL, I would say it was his intense desire and will to serve his country and his people well, by bringing justice to those who needed it most, the poor, the sick and the underprivileged. He loved to fight for them, to champion their cause, and to

make life more bearable for them. It was for that reason that he pioneered in the struggle for social security legislation in this Congress, much of which was either sponsored by him or in which he played an important part in its enactment.

Those of us who were privileged with his close friendship know under what terrific handicaps he was working. He had always been in poor health and it was with a great effort and personal sacrifice that he was able to carry on the important duties of his office. But he had a deep sense of responsibility and a great faith in God to give him the strength and the wisdom necessary to perform his task. I know personally that whenever he was faced with a particularly difficult decision, he always turned to the Almighty God for guidance. And when he was convinced he was morally right, no power on earth was able to swerve him from the determination to stay with that decision.

To me, JOHN DINGELL's passing was a particularly heavy blow. I had known him and enjoyed his friendship for many years, dating back even to the time before he started his service in Congress. His frendship was one of the richest experiences in my life. From the first day that I became a Member of this great body, over 5 years ago, I looked to him for help. He was more than a friend to me. He guided me through those difficult first years and gave me words of encouragement when they were needed most. I feel proud to have been able to work with him in the fulfillment of his legislative program, and to have been honored by his close friendship.

Outside of his public service, JOHN DINGELL's greatest interest in life was his family. More than once, he told me that he would not have been able to carry on without his life's companion, his beloved and loving wife, who stood by him and worked with him loyally and tirelessly during his entire public career. He fully understood and appreciated her great sacrifice and devotion.

He was always proud of his children to whom he gave all the advantages in education which he was deprived of, at the same time giving them a fine family life in the values of which he believed so sincerely.

I wish to extend my deep condolences to his widow, Grace, and to his children, John, James, and Julé.

We shall miss the leadership and the guidance of JOHN DINGELL in Congress, but I am confident that his work will be continued in the way he would have wanted it, by his most able and deserving son, John D. Dingell. He will carry on in the tradition and the pattern of his most distinguished father, who will be long and lovingly remembered by us here in Congress and by the people whom he served so well.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana [Mr. Halleck].

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, it was with genuine and deep-felt sorrow that I read in the press of the passing of my good and very dear friend, JOHN DINGELL. He was my friend and I was his friend. At the time of his passing, our length of service in the House of Representatives was about the same although, I believe, JOHN DINGELL came to the House of Representatives shortly before I did. Through my service here, I have become increasingly convinced that to be a Member of this great body is indeed a high privilege, and honor and a pleasure. It is an honor and a privilege because, by and large, the Members of this body are persons of capacity. If they are not people of capacity, they do not get here. If they are not people of capacity, they seldom stay here long. Together with capacity they must have integrity, decency, honor, intelligence, and judgment. JOHN DINGELL was one of the men who added much to the standing and the prestige of the House of Representatives. I say also it is a pleasure to serve in this body for many reasons. Probably the best reason is that friendships are made here—friendships that have no concern at all with the center aisle which

divides the Republicans from the Democrats—friendships which are little concerned with differing political or economic viewpoints—friendships that transcend all such differences and which in my opinion afford the happiest occasions of our work.

In the years of his better health, JOHN DINGELL and his sons, together with my boy and myself, on occasion were together under very happy circumstances. I know how much he thought of his family, as we all think of our families.

Mr. Speaker, we shall all miss JOHN DINGELL. But, may I say to his boy who succeeds him here: Welcome.

He follows a leader, and he becomes part of a distinguished tradition in this high position in the House of Representatives which I am certain he will uphold with honor and with dignity.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my distinguished colleague the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Lesinski].

Mr. LESINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I did not have the privilege of knowing Congressman JOHN DINGELL as long as some of my colleagues here, but in the short period that I did know him I experienced something that touched me very deeply. Congressman DINGELL was like a father not only to me but you might say to all America. He never shunned a responsibility. He was feared because with his honesty and integrity and thorough knowledge of problems, he saw through all subterfuges. The passing of JOHN DINGELL leaves a mark in the history of America that will never be forgotten. His extreme loyalty to America and his never-ceasing struggle for the rights of the common man which is typical of Americans of Polish extraction, his deep feeling for not only his family but also for those who have known him and for whom he worked—all of these qualities of JOHN DINGELL make the loss to his family and friends also America's loss. May God's loving hand bless his journey to a well-deserved rest.

His successor in these halls will be his son, John D. Dingell, Jr., who will, we all know, carry on in his father's tradition and be a credit to the people of his district.

Mr. SADLAK. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RABAUT. I yield.

Mr. SADLAK. Mr. Speaker, the untimely death of my good friend and colleague, JOHN DINGELL, came to me as a great shock. It is with a feeling of real personal loss that I pay tribute to a man who served the people loyally and unselfishly for 23 years in this legislative body.

I first became acquainted with JOHN DINGELL in 1938 when I returned to Washington, D. C., as secretary to Congressman B. J. Monkiewicz; together we made a courtesy call at Mr. DINGELL'S office and became good friends from that day on. Later as a Congressman and as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, I had many opportunities to exchange ideas and work with him on legislation. He was a man of conviction and I respected his interest in civic, patriotic, and social matters affecting the welfare of the people. His senior position on this dominant and most important Ways and Means Committee enabled him to do a great deal of good for the benefit of all the people.

Like myself, Mr. DINGELL was of Polish descent, and I have a great admiration for his devotion and pride for the people of Poland. He was extremely proud of that great race and inherited the fighting spirit of those people.

Born in Detroit, Mich., JOHN'S early career was illustrative of the possibilities of the average citizen under our form of government. Prior to his congressional years, he worked for a Detroit newspaper as a compositor and a reporter. At one time, he was engineer for a natural-gas pipeline and later engaged in the wholesale meat business. At the creation of the 15th Congressional District of Michigan in 1932, JOHN was elected its first Representative in Congress, a position he held until his death last fall.

His record and reputation both as a legislator, and as a man, will not be forgotten, but will stand as a symbol for others to follow. Mrs. Sadlak joins me in expressing our deepest sympathy and regrets to Mrs. Dingell and the family.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RABAUT. I yield.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, JOHN DAVID DINGELL was one of the outstanding Members of this House, as all who served with him well know. He was one of the ablest men of this body. He was one of the most courageous men of this House whenever a matter of principle was involved. He was my friend. I shall miss him. This House will miss him and his country will miss him.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RABAUT. I yield.

Mr. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of our departed colleague, JOHN DINGELL. I was indeed saddened when I learned of his passing. While Mr. DINGELL represented a district in Michigan, we in Colorado felt that in many ways he belonged to us. He had gone to Colorado Springs some years ago and after regaining his health had engaged in business in that city, where he made many friends, who mourn his passing.

When I came to Congress I soon became acquainted with JOHN DINGELL and we became close friends. I formed a great admiration for his ability and his knowledge of national issues. I recognized the outstanding service which he was rendering and that he was looked upon as one of the leaders in the House. We had mutual friends in Colorado and JOHN always enjoyed talking about them.

I can recall that JOHN DINGELL maintained his interest in and his love for the West. Whenever any legislation came before this House dealing with irrigation and reclamation

projects in Colorado, or other matters of peculiar interest to the West, we always found a champion in JOHN DINGELL. He never lost his love and affection for the people of Colorado. I think at one time he advocated that the Capital of the United States should be moved to Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, the passing of JOHN DINGELL is a great loss, not only to the people of Michigan and his district, but to the entire Nation, and to me personally. I join with my colleagues today in welcoming his son as a Member of this body and I am sure he will follow in the footsteps of his distinguished father.

I wish to extend my sincere sympathy to Mrs. Dingell, and to the other members of the family.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Hayworth].

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, immediately upon becoming a Member of this great legislative body I felt the need for counsel and for guidance. At that time being unaware of the nature of the House I scarcely knew to whom I might appropriately turn. I did not know that the chairman of a State delegation had great responsibility to other Members from his State and also to the House, but fortunately I went first to JOHN DINGELL. I was rather surprised to find that he welcomed me so eagerly and was so anxious to help; as a matter of fact, I was almost embarrassed because of the generosity which he showed toward me; he even made the facilities of his office available to me immediately upon my arrival here in the city shortly after election, so that I had a home and a base of operations, which were most helpful. Throughout the months that followed I went to him again and again and always found a warm welcome and a generous, wholesome spirit of brotherhood.

After serving with JOHN for several months I found that not only was he much beloved by his people in Michigan but also greatly respected and loved by the Members of this House.

It once became necessary for me to do a little research on some of the legislation with which he had been connected some 20 years ago. I found that even as a young Congressman he had made a most vigorous imprint upon the legislative activity of the House at that time.

One of the things for which we may be most grateful to him, however, is that he has given us one of his own blood and spirit to carry on the great tradition which he founded for his district in this House. In years to come I am sure we will all be proud of the contribution of his son, John, as a Member of this House.

Mr. DIGGS. Mr. Speaker, the bereavement which we feel in the loss of our distinguished colleague, JOHN D. DINGELL, SR., is shared by countless leaders and citizens of our country. I had the honor of knowing Mr. DINGELL for many years and observing the impact of his influence through distinctive service. Many people in the 13th Congressional District of Michigan, which I represent, were the beneficiaries of his able legislative stewardship. Mr. DINGELL was very helpful to me when a year ago I first came to Congress as a freshman. I derived much benefit from his counsel. His colleagues, his district, his State, and his country suffer a great loss in his absence. If there is any consolation in his passing, it is that we have high hopes that his magnanimous spirit and his love for humanity will be carried on by his distinguished son and successor, John D. Dingell, Jr.

Mr. EBERHARTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow and a feeling of great personal loss that I rise to pay tribute to the memory of my colleague and friend JOHN DINGELL. I know that these feelings are shared by all of us here, for his courageous spirit, his patience and understanding were an inspiration to all who knew him.

Elected to Congress in 1932 from the then newly created 15th Congressional District of Michigan, he was reelected each successive term. The first 2 years he was a Member

of Congress, he served on the House Civil Service Committee, the Insular Affairs Committee, and the Patents Committee, but in 1935 he gave up those assignments to become, as he said, "the first American of Polish extraction to serve on the Ways and Means Committee." He remained on that committee until his death, at which time he was the ranking Democratic member. Besides being a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, he was also a member of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, and the Joint Committee on Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

JOHN DINGELL was a stanch liberal and throughout his career as a Member of Congress he fought continuously for legislation benefiting the workingman. During his first 4 years of Congress, he was a strong supporter of such important measures as the Securities and Exchange and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Acts—1934, the National Labor Relations—Wagner—Act of 1935, and the original Social Security Act of 1935. In succeeding years he continued the fight to improve the laws and introduced new measures to provide for the welfare of the people.

The many improvements made in the social-security laws over the years were in large part due to the efforts of the gentleman from the 15th District of Michigan. He was the author of many of the amendments which finally found their way into public law. Substantially all of the 1950 amendments to the Social Security Act came from bills originally introduced by JOHN DINGELL.

In recent years he has become associated widely in the public mind with a measure providing for national health insurance. Actually this interest on his part dates back to 1943, when, together with Senators Robert F. Wagner, of New York, and James E. Murray, of Montana, he introduced into the House the measure to extend social security coverage known as the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill. Besides health

insurance, this bill also would have provided for the extension of social security to some 15 million American citizens not covered by previous acts, old age and disability benefits ranging up to $120 a month, and additional unemployment benefits. This measure has been supported by Mr. DINGELL during every Congress since 1943, and has received the enthusiastic support of the A. F. of L. and CIO, but has never reached the floor for a vote.

A review of his legislative record would of necessity have to include his outstanding achievements in the area of taxation. He was a firm believer in the economic theory of taxation on the basis of ability to pay and was always the first to speak out in opposition when it appeared that the progressive tax structure might be threatened. He was one of the most vocal antagonists of the tax-reduction bill of 1947, and voted against both versions, on the basis that it was not an equitable system of tax reduction. He was particularly opposed to the manufacturers' excise tax, believing that it was an attempt to foist upon the American consumer nothing more than a concealed sales tax in its worst form.

I had the privilege of serving for a good many years on the same committee with JOHN DINGELL, and of observing at first hand the qualities that made him such a great legislator. He always carefully studied the legislation before the committee, and never failed to express his views both in committee and on the floor of the House, and he was one of those rare individuals who possessed both the courage to carry on a never-ending fight for the ideals in which he believed, and yet also showed a willingness to compromise when it became obvious that his goals could not be attained at that particular time. He realized that it is not always possible to achieve the ideal solution to a problem immediately, that there are times when one has to accept something less—a step toward the ultimate goal one is seeking. This he was willing to accept for the moment, but he would never once forget the real aim for a substitute.

The mere fact that JOHN DINGELL was a Member of Congress for so many years is enough to set him apart as being an unusual person, of course, but there is something much more distinctive about this man than simply his tenure in office or his political ability. He was a true statesman of the highest caliber. He possessed the intelligence to grasp and understand the most technical phases of legislation, the interest, wisdom, and courage to tackle very difficult problems, and the Christian love and depth of understanding to know and feel the problems that confront human beings.

Too often human values get lost in the shuffle when we become embroiled in the tremendous task of legislating for 160 million Americans, and we may tend to look at a tax-revision bill or a social-security bill simply in terms of a lot of statistics, or of how much money it is going to mean to the Treasury. It was indeed an inspiration to me to observe a man who was always aware of his tremendous responsibility, and whose primary concern was the effect his decision might have on each individual American.

We have lost a good statesman, and we who served with him certainly feel his absence, but we can be grateful that, although he is no longer with us, his contributions and his ideals will remain forever, as a constant reminder of the potentialities of human beings so dedicated to the highest level of social, moral, and political principles.

It is most appropriate that we today pay verbal tribute to one who has given so much to humanity; but I believe the greatest tribute we can pay to JOHN DINGELL lies not in the realm of spoken praise, but in ourselves pursuing the ideals for a better world for which he so valiantly fought.

Mr. RABAUT. And now, Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to ask his son to take the floor, the son of a worthy sire and a son who carries his father's name, a son who succeeds to his father's place by the free will of the free people of his district in Michigan, John Dingell, Jr.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply touched by this tribute paid to my beloved father and the respect and affection in which he was held by all of his brother Members of the House, without regard for political creed. I shall always remember and treasure this day.

My father loved and respected the House and all its Members. If I can be half the man my father was I shall feel I was a great success.

On behalf of my dear mother, and my brother and sister, and myself, I wish to extend to the Members of the House my deep thanks and gratitude for the splendid tribute that has been paid to my father today.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Mr. Speaker, words do not come easy for me in paying tribute to the life and work of the late JOHN DINGELL.

It was my privilege to have known and worked with JOHN DINGELL many years in Michigan before joining him as a Member of Congress. His friendly advice and assistance proved most valuable to me when I entered the House as a freshman Member a year ago.

His courage and steadfastness of purpose were an inspiration to all who knew him. His contribution to American life will be measured with increasing value as the years go by.

If it can be said of any man that he devoted his life to the service of his country, it can surely be said of JOHN DINGELL. His devotion to duty came from the highest precept of public office. The courage he displayed in standing for what he believed to be just stimulated others to positive action.

And may I take this opportunity to welcome his son, Congressman John Dingell, Jr., to this Chamber. We who know Congressman Dingell have confidence he will ably exemplify the spirit of his beloved father, and will, in his own right, demonstrate a capacity for good works.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Mr. Speaker, I should like to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of the late Honorable

JOHN D. DINGELL, of Michigan. It was a shock to me to learn of his passing last September, when I was home in Milwaukee, and whence I went to attend his funeral in Detroit. His loss will be felt deeply by our Nation.

It was a privilege and honor for me to serve in the House with such a distinguished, hardworking, and conscientious man as the late JOHN DINGELL. For many years, he fought courageously for the interests of our people, and for legislation intended to raise the standard of living throughout the Nation. He was dedicated to high moral, social, and political principles in his spheres of action.

JOHN DINGELL will be missed by his colleagues, and by the people of Michigan whom he served so well and so long. It is our mutual consolation and hope that his son, who has been chosen to represent the people of the 15th District of Michigan, will carry on the work and the ideals of his father in these Halls of Congress.

To our late colleague's family, I extend my deepest sympathy and the prayer that the Almighty Creator may grant him peace in eternity.

Mr. CELLER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to add my voice to the many that have eulogized our distinguished late colleague JOHN DINGELL. I knew him from the time he came to Congress, and learned to have an affectionate regard for him, as I am sure he had for me.

Just as cream rises to the top of the bottle, so he, in a short time, rose and grew in his ability and effectiveness as a Member of the House. He won the admiration of all the Members for his integrity of purpose, high aims, exemplary character, and excellence in parliamentary procedure. He rendered excellent service as a ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee. His words on the floor of the House always carried conviction.

Unfortunately, in the last few years, illness pursued him. May we say that the Good Lord wished to see an end to the

suffering he endured and bestowed upon him an endless sleep. Even when suffering with pain, he insisted on coming to committee meetings and to the floor of the House. He bore his pain unflinchingly and uncomplainingly. He was indeed a stoic.

JOHN DINGELL'S constituents loved him and honored him, and returned him to office many times. They placed upon him this accolade of distinction for having the courage of his convictions and for his devoted service. He is now succeeded by his son who, I am sure, will walk in the paths hewn out for him by his revered father. Like father, like son. The mantle of his office now falls upon him. From what I have already seen and know about him, he will keep the memory of his father alive in this House by distinguished service, honor and integrity.

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice to the beautiful hymn of tribute paid to the late JOHN DINGELL by his colleagues in the Congress.

JOHN DINGELL was an honorable and courageous man who was thoroughly dedicated to the needs and desires of the average American. In his 23 years of distinguished service in the House of Representatives he provided outstanding leadership in the fight for social security, the National Labor Relations Act, national health insurance, and other New and Fair Deal reform measures.

He carried on the fight for liberal legislation despite a lingering illness which caused him untold pain and suffering. But JOHN DINGELL never permitted his own suffering to interfere with his legislative goals. I was always proud to have him as a friend as well as a brother member of the International Typographical Union.

JOHN DINGELL was a true statesman, endowed with the ability of relating complex legislation to the needs of people which he so sympathetically understood. His high ideals and sincerity of purpose were a source of inspiration to his

fellow Members who respected and admired him. He will be sorely missed in the crucial days ahead.

We welcome his son, John D. Dingell, who has been chosen to carry on the work so nobly advanced by his distinguished father. To our late colleague's wife and children I extend my deepest sympathy in their great loss.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with other Members of the House in expressing a tribute to an honored and esteemed colleague, JOHN D. DINGELL, of the 15th Congressional District of Michigan, who passed away on September 19, 1955.

The details of my beloved friend's distinguished career, his long record of accomplishments, have been recalled to mind by those who have preceded me this afternoon. I would like to join in the remarks of those members of the House who have so ably lauded the record that our departed colleague left as a stirring monument to his long and creative service in Congress. To their remarks I would like to add the view that the influence of JOHN DINGELL will be reflected in forward-looking social and economic legislation that may pass the Congress in the decades ahead.

I would not give this sad occasion appropriate recognition if I were not to express my great feeling of personal loss over the passing of my beloved and distinguished friend. The years of our mutual service in the House of Representatives, on the Committee on Ways and Means, and on the other groups on which we mutually served resulted in a warm personal friendship between us. During our association I learned not only to recognize his great foresight as a legislator and statesman but I also learned to esteem him as a friend and be honored by his friendship.

The people of America, his beloved family, and his colleagues in the Congress have sustained a great loss in the passing of JOHN DINGELL, of Michigan, but we have each gained an inspiring record of achievement to use as a personal goal.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I was very much saddened when I learned of the passing of our good friend, the Honorable JOHN DAVID DINGELL, of Michigan, and take this opportunity to add my voice to those who have expressed such deserving tributes to the memory of our distinguished departed colleague.

JOHN DINGELL represented the 15th Congressional District in Detroit, Mich., from 1932 until his passing on September 19, 1955. His long continuous service is indeed a splendid tribute to the esteem in which he was held by his constituents. During all those years he stood out as a champion of the little people and on every occasion fought valiantly to protect their rights. JOHN possessed a fine Christian character and never wavered in his devotion to duty or at any time sacrificed principle for expediency.

I am proud to say that I had the privilege of knowing JOHN quite well and one year traveled in Europe with him and his good wife. Despite the fact that he had been ill for a number of years he always had a kind word and a gracious smile for everyone, and it was a joy and inspiration to be in his presence. He had a great gift for knowing how to make friends and above all how to retain them.

During JOHN DINGELL'S distinguished career in this body he made many substantial contributions to good government and as a member of the Ways and Means Committee rendered valuable service as an authority on our Federal tax structure. His passing is a tragic loss to his district, his State, and our country. His capable and distinguished young son who follows him as a Member of Congress has every reason to be justly proud of his father's splendid record as a public servant.

I shall always miss JOHN DINGELL. I extend my sincere sympathy to his beloved wife and children in their great bereavement.

Mr. RABAUT. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 347).

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL, a Representative from the State of Michigan.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Members, the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p. m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, January 5, 1956, at 12 o'clock noon.

MONDAY, *January 9, 1956.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carrell, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had adopted the following resolution (S. Res. 158).

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL, late a Representative from the State of Michigan.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, the Senate do now adjourn.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *January 5, 1956.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Bartlett, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL, Sr., late a Representative from the State of Michigan, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Morse in the chair). The Chair lays before the Senate a resolution coming from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The resolution (H. Res. 347) was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL, a Representative from the State of Michigan.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. McNAMARA. Mr. President, I send to the desk a resolution which I ask to have read, and for which I ask present consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 158) was read, and considered by unanimous consent, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL, late a Representative from the State of Michigan.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. McNAMARA. Mr. President, the passing of this distinguished and courageous Member of the House of Representatives is not only a great loss to his district and to the State of Michigan, but also to the common man everywhere.

Personally, I feel a great void has been left in my world. JOHN DINGELL was my friend and adviser. The taking of my seat in the Senate was made easier for me because I knew I could rely on this great American for guidance and advice whenever I needed them.

I again extend my sincere sympathies to his widow Grace, and to his children, John, Jr., James, and Julé.

In the Senate Chamber we are honored by the presence of the newest Member of the 84th Congress, John Dingell, Jr., who I am certain will carry on in the great traditions of his noble and distinguished father.

Mr. BENDER. Mr. President, I join with my colleague from Michigan in praising the fine work of Representative JOHN DINGELL. It was my privilege to know him very well during my service in the House of Representatives. No member of the Committee on Ways and Means was more diligent, more painstaking, and more devoted to his job than JOHN DINGELL, and certainly citizens of Polish extraction never had a better friend in Congress.

Mr. McNAMARA. I thank the Senator from Ohio.

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President I should like to associate myself with the tribute expressed by the Senator from Michigan on behalf of his late friend, the distinguished Representative from Michigan, Mr. JOHN DINGELL.

I knew Mr. DINGELL during my service in Congress and even before I came to Congress. I have the privilege of knowing his son, who has succeeded his very fine father as a Member of the House of Representatives.

Recently I had the great privilege of serving with the late Representative DINGELL on the President's Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. On that commission he

served very ably and with high devotion and dedication to his responsibilities.

Representative DINGELL could be called a true liberal. He fought the liberal fight. He was very proud to be a friend of the working man. He was proud to work in behalf of social legislation in the field of education, health, and welfare. He has left his mark on the public laws of this land. His fine work will live on in the lives of many people, who will have a better life because of what Representative DINGELL did for them.

I know that his son will follow in the footsteps of his very fine father and continue the record his father has made.

Mr. McNAMARA. I thank the Senator from Minnesota for his very kind remarks.

Mr. LEHMAN. Mr. President, I deem it a very great privilege to speak briefly this afternoon in eulogy of the late Representative DINGELL, of Michigan. He was a great liberal and a great American. I had the privilege of working with him very closely in many activities which involved matters of interest not only to the Congress but to the entire Nation. He represented a truly cosmopolitan district in Michigan. I am told that in his district 32 different nationalities were represented. The Senator from Ohio [Mr. Bender] spoke about Mr. DINGELL's fine representation of the Polish constituency. I know from what I have learned from his intimate associates that he represented equally well every nationality in his district.

It was a great privilege to work closely with him on social security. I think I am safe in saying that we saw eye to eye on all matters which were of common interest. No man was more deeply interested in or more completely convinced of the necessity for fair, humane, just, and workable immigration laws. He was a tower of strength in the fight which we have waged in the Congress for several years to obtain a more equitable and a less brutal and cruel immigration policy.

He was a strong proponent of and always a fighter for fair and progressive taxation. He felt that taxation should be spread fairly and equitably in its demand on all the people, not upon any one class or group. What impressed me most, however, in my long association with Representative DINGELL was the fact that his concern was always for the little fellow. He protected the interests of all his constituents, large and small.

Deep down in his heart I know that he was moved most by the needs and aspirations and ideals of the little fellows, and he always went to bat for them, and usually with great success.

I mourn the loss of a very dear friend and associate. I think his passing has been a great loss not only to the community in which he lived and which he served so faithfully, but to the entire Nation which felt the imprint of his idealism, his hopes, and his determination.

It is a consolation to me to know that he has been followed in the House of Representatives by his son. I did not have the pleasure of knowing his son until a few days ago, when I first met him, but I have heard many excellent and fine things about him. I am very confident that he will be a very worthy successor to his great father, and I wish him success.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution with reference to the deceased Representative DINGELL, of Michigan.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, I move that the Senate do now adjourn until Monday next.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 5 o'clock and 46 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until Monday, January 9, 1956, at 12 o'clock meridian.

Date Due

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Memorial services held in the main

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